

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page 2, please replace the paragraph starting on line 6 with the following paragraph:

These conventional time profiling techniques fall into one of two categories: sampling-based time profiling and code instrumentation. According to the sampling-based approach, a time profiling process, referred to as a "profiler," periodically interrupts program execution and records information concerning currently active functions or call stack traces. The advantage of the sampling approach is that it provides useful information without overly ~~[[on]]~~ intruding on program execution. The disadvantage is that it is difficult to attribute a time quantum to individual threads from the output. Modern operating systems, for example, do not provide a mechanism for distinguishing the set of threads that are currently active and running (i.e., utilizing the processor) from threads that are alive but inactive. For example, a thread may appear active or running when in reality it is waiting for the completion of an operation, such as being blocked on an I/O operation, and this waiting time should not be counted in the thread's time profile.

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